

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

APRIL 17, 2018

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

PRAYER: Councilman Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Bob Bridges, Brian Conner, Craig Smith, Brad Berkemeier, Gary Cameron, and Gabby Brinson, Student Advisor, answered roll call. Also present was City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse.

MINUTES: Cameron moved to approve the minutes of April 3, 2018 as presented. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Pavey reported the following:

1. Met with Duke concerning the Circleville area.
2. We had a stellar public meeting regarding the trails.
3. On the 9th we had our second safety meeting.
4. Ricky Hayes was in town on the 11th and 12th to discuss retail.
5. On the 13th a section of the Durbin fell. The structural engineer stated that next week they will begin making repairs.
6. The building committee for the Princess Theater met last night.
7. We had the "High 5" at RES East today.
8. On the 18th we will meet on the City Center project.
9. Tomorrow night we have a leadership community organization meeting.
10. On the 19th we will have "High 5" at RES West.
11. The 19th we have a Stellar core meeting and discussion on the Flatrock Run.
12. We will have a walkthrough of the training center on the 20th.
13. On the 20th will be the viewing for Paul Davis. The 21st is his funeral.
14. The 21st there is a library fund raiser.
15. On the 23rd we will be at WTHR to discuss Riverside Park.
16. We will be at the Governor's office on the 23rd to discuss Highway 3.
17. "High 5" will be at St. Mary's on the 24th.
18. Race night at the K of C is the 23th.
19. 26th is the INDOT quarterly meeting.
20. 29th is Bowl for Kids Sake.

21. The IUPUI student presentation will be May 1st.
22. May 8th is Election Day.
23. The Mayor's 5K is May 12. Proceeds will go to the Carol Jenkins Davis Park.
24. Council of Clubs – We have included a survey with the draft for the school.
25. Asked Council to let him know if they would like to tour the construction projects.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Clerk-Treasurer Copley informed Council that Laura Ash would be available after the meeting to discuss Grange insurance with Council members.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Council President Smith told Council to look for a May town hall meeting with landlords to discuss the trash problems.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Stellar Designation** – We will discuss later in this meeting.
- **Amphitheater/Park Board** – We have a meeting next week.
- **Marketing** – Our focus is on retail.
- **APC/BZA** – Code Enforcement – Dates have been sent to Councilman Smith for the public meeting with landlords.
- **City Center** – Construction is continuing.
- **Cherry Street Extension** – Nothing new.
- **Brownfield Grant** – Nothing new.
- **ECDC** – We are still in the running with the 2 companies.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police – Chief Tucker reported that the rubber for the firing range arrived today. They will begin working on the range next Tuesday.

The Board of Works hired James Ryan Mundt for the fulltime dispatch position.

Subway will be hosting a fundraiser for the police department on May 14 from 2:00-10:00 p.m. The department will receive 10% or up to \$500.00.

Fire – Chief Jenkins said they are currently taking applications. They will have the agility testing on May 12. Interviews will be May 31. They plan to be prepared to hire 2 firefighters on June 5.

Park – Park Director Burklow said they have been receiving quite a bit of dirt at the Carol Jenkins Davis Park. The fence for the dog park is finished. The water line will be in Thursday. The agility equipment needs to be installed and we are working to get the key fob system ready for use.

Animal – Mayor Pavey said the Board of Works accepted the resignations of Cara Moran and Michael Issacs.

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Annexation (Reddish, Massa, Philpot)** - We are working on the annexations. They will most likely have to be done separately. We will keep Council informed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **DNR Recreational Trail Program** – The City plans to apply for \$200,000.00 in federal dollars for a levee trail project. The trail will connect with the trail at the overlook and behind Laker. The local match is approximately 20%. The total cost of the project is still being evaluated. There were no comments.
2. **Police Department Roof Bid** – One Bid was received from Denny Corn as follows: \$54,000 for 29 gauge; \$60,000.00 for 26 gauge; and \$90,000.00 for standing seam.
3. **Resolution 2018-10 Adding Monies Back to Appropriations** – Bridges moved to approve Resolution 2018-10. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. **911 County Board Move Forward** – The county attorney would like to have conversation regarding a 911 board.
5. **Bee Hives in City Limits** – Jerry Stanley requested permission to have honey bee hives in the City. He said honey bees are on the endangered species list.

Mayor Pavey said the Redevelopment Commission allowed hives to be placed in the industrial park near the pond last year.

Stanley said he would put the hives behind the Shampoo Bowl where there are not any houses close. Stanley has permission from the property owner. This would not be a hobby and not used as a business.

Councilman Smith said they would research the matter and asked Stanley to come back in a few weeks to discuss their findings. There is nothing in the City's ordinance regarding bee hives.

6. **Drainage/Flooding-Recent Event and Issues** – Mayor Pavey stated that we have been working to determine why the flooding was to the extreme in the specific area. We have identified the bottle neck area. Chuck Kemker handed out a homeowners flood guide. Kemker suggested that residents sign up for the emergency alert so they will be aware of emergency situations before they happen. He said residents can register through their cell phone through nixle.com. Kemker said the ground was already very saturated from previous snow and rain. The river level rose 4 feet in 3 hours. We received 4 ¼ inches of rain. Kemker stated there was just no place for the rain to go. He said a stick did get caught in the levee gate causing some issues.

Mayor Pavey and Councilman Cameron said the completion of the Cherry Street project will cause major improvements for the watershed area.

Becky Stone – 527 N Arthur brought pictures of the flooding in her area. She said it appears the drains are blocked and was concerned that they are not being maintained. Stone said there was 28 inches of water in her basement. She said throughout the 400 and 500 blocks of Arthur Street almost all residents lost furnaces. She said the City needs to keep the drains open. Debris and trash are causing severe clogging. She said flood insurance is not available due to not being in a flood area. Stone questioned why this has not been addressed. She said the drainage ditch needs to be cleared.

Larry Copley – 806 N Arthur stated that he has lived in this area all of his life and there have always been issues. The storm drain has helped. He said he didn't think filling in the sunken garden helped this type of situation. Copley urged City leaders to stop allowing yard waste to be placed along the curbs. Grass, leaves, and debris in the streets are clogging the storm drains. Residents need to take responsibility for cleaning up trash. Copley suggested closing Hodges Branch or dredging it, stating that it is an open ditch.

Stone stated that this was the first time in 40 years that they have had this kind of water. Mark DeWitt asked who is going to pay for the damage to property and equipment due to the City's neglect. Mayor Pavey said he could turn it in to City's insurance, but wasn't sure they would help.

Pavey said we are searching for answers. He said we need to have conversations with the County to stop their water from coming into town.

Stone asked if the ditch could be cleared. Pavey said it could be cleared. He said we need to maintain our system better, but we also need to stop debris from the County coming into our City.

Peggy Scott– 632 W 6th said they had 4 ft of water in their back yard. The clean-up is hard. They need help with clean-up.

Pavey said he will make sure there are checks and balances in place after events like this which are specific to areas of priority.

Councilman Cameron said we now have a storm water technical manual to use in helping to maintain the water.

Councilman Smith assured the residents that this will get fixed. They will find out what help is available and will do what we can to prevent this from happening again.

Pavey said we can't let the County run over us regarding the drainage coming into town. We need to bring our concerns before the Drainage Board.

Stone said she didn't know where to go. She asked for dates of meetings that they need to attend. Pavey said he will provide meetings that would be helpful for the residents to attend. He said the City will take their responsibility in the matter. The Drainage Board is a county board. The next meeting is April 30th at 9:00 at the Courthouse.

Kemker said this did not meet FEMA thresholds for assistance. He said this is not an easy fix.

Councilman Cameron asked Les Day what was the average water to go through the plant for an event. Day said the average would be 1.5 mil. On the day of this event the water pumped through the plant was 8.4 mil.

7. **Stellar Overlook New Concept** – Pavey asked Council if they wanted him to move forward with the new concept of the Overlook. Bridges made a motion to move forward with the new Stellar Overlook concept. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CLAIMS AND MONTHLY BANK RECONCILIATION – Berkemeier moved to approve the claims and the March bank reconciliation as presented. Conner seconded the motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: None.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before Council; Conner moved to adjourn. Berkemeier seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.